

Michael F. Easley  
Governor



State of North Carolina  
Office of the Governor

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**GOV. EASLEY URGES NORTH CAROLINIANS TO HONOR VETERANS**

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Mike Easley today urged North Carolinians to set aside time to honor and celebrate the men and women who have served, and continue to serve, in the armed forces protecting the nation and its freedom. The Governor has declared Saturday Veteran's Day in North Carolina.

"Our veterans answered the call to duty and they have made tremendous sacrifices to keep our nation secure," said Easley. "I am proud to pay tribute to our veterans who have served our country and state so well and to whom we owe so much. I encourage citizens across North Carolina to take time to express their gratitude and to honor the heroism and sacrifice of America's military."

According to the Veterans Administration, North Carolina has the fourth-fastest growing veterans population in the nation with 790,000 veterans in the state. In addition, there are more than 120,000 active duty personnel serving on military bases throughout the state and 25,000 citizens serving in the National Guard and Reserves. Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 7,800 North Carolina guardsmen have been called to active duty both in the United States and overseas.

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